



16 August 1961

Dear Ed,

Thank you very much for your letter of 31 July which is a very complete and helpful discussion of the mercury problem.

We are doing our very best to arrange it so that the mercury subsystems will not require field service. I don't believe we can now estimate that we will be successful in this regard.

In the meantime we are attempting to do two things to alleviate the handling problem if we should have to service the mercury subsystems at the Area: 1) We have ordered a mercury vapor detector and will start to employ it in this building as soon as it is delivered (about two weeks); and 2) we are continually attempting to improve the handling and housekeeping of mercury. I will keep you informed of any significant developments.

Frank is conducting an experiment with the mercury vapor and the sensitive material to improve our understanding of the problem. We will send you a report as soon as the experimental work is completed.

Thanks again for your excellent letter on the subject.

Best regards

*Milt*  
Milt

mb

cc: C.F.H. - 2 ✓  
C.M.H.